Working conditions of the staff of Indian Airlines

996. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact in Indian Airlines the duty roster is made by calling the staff in the morning 3-4 hours shift duty, then laying him off during the afternoon and recalling in the evening shift to complete the required number of working hours;

(b) whether it is also fact that in the split duty though the work is taken for 7 hours 35 minutes, the staff is actually detained for more than 12 to 14 hours;

(c) whether they are given any allowance for this, if so, the details;

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in negative whether Government propose to increase the allowances; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At certain outstations, where some flights operate in the morning and some in the evening, there is no work during the intervening period. Therefore, the staff are rostered for performing 'split duty' in the morning and evening spanning a period of 12 hours.

(b) The maximum period of duty does not exceed 6 1|2 hours per day for performing duty twice a day and 5 1|2 hours per day for dting duty for more than twice a day. This is as per agreement with the unions.

(c) When called to do 'split duty', such staff are provided with transport from residence to place of work and back, or are paid conveyance charges @ Rs. 4|- per round trip. In case, such employees have to stay beyond their maximum period of duty, they get overtime at double the ordinary rate of wages.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Vacancies in Indian Airlines

997. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of vacancies of loaders, helpers and peons, reserved for SCs and STs, have been lying vacant in the Indian Airlines in its Northern Region office at Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi since long;

(b) if so, what are details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by the authorities concerned to fill up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As on date there are 12 and 5 posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively lying vacant in the Northern Region office of Indian Airlines. The details are given below:—

	Vacancies for Scheduled Castes	Vacancies for Scheduled Tribes
Peons . . .	2	..
Loaders . .	6	2
Helpers . .	4	3
TOTAL .	12	5

(c) Action is underway to fill up the vacant posts.